Schools for Bombers Reported to Hill Unit

By Lawrence L. Knutson
Associated Press

An Illinois investigator told Senate investigators yesterday some members of Students for a Democratic Society have conducted workshops on bombmaking regularly since a 1968 meeting in Boulder, Colo.

Charles Siragusa, chairman of the Illinois Crime Investigating Commission, urged the government to classify official publications on how to make explosives to prevent them being used by subversive groups. Such pamphlets now are available through the Government Printing Office.

He recommended enactment of new federal laws to restrict sales of explosives and incendiary devices and to punish violators who "illegally cause damage to life, limb or property."

Secretary of the Interior Walter J. Hickel, meanwhile, announced administration proposals for legislation to control sale of explosives.

The law would require federal licensing of explosives manufacturers and dealers, positive identification of buyers, and safe storage.

Illegal use of explosives and trafficking in stolen explosives would become federal offenses with maximum penalties of 10 years' imprisonment and $10,000 fines.

Commenting on the "Days of Rage," in Chicago's streets in October 1969, Siragusa told the Senate Permanent Sub-Weatherman faction of SDS committee on Investigations:

"Well-calculated guerrilla warfare has become an integral part of the SDS strategy."

Siragusa said the radical appears to have gone underground in order to carry out a campaign of sabotage, and claimed the group had established relations with the Black Panthers, the Young Lords and other militant groups.

Other witnesses, all representing the explosives industry, recommended the federal licensing of makers and users of dynamite. They stressed their belief that manufacturers should not solely be singled out and said legitimate users of high explosives would have no objection to obtaining a license.

By Bob Burchette—The Washington Post

Illinois investigator Charles Siragusa tells Hill hearing radicals have conducted bombmaking workshops.